

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of a *Rht* polypeptide obtained from *Triticum aestivum*, said sequence comprising the amino acid sequence
DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104),

and which on expression in a *Triticum aestivum* plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 which includes the nucleotide sequence of nucleic acid obtained from *Triticum aestivum* encoding the *Rht* polypeptide, the nucleotide sequence including
GACGAGCTGCTGGCGGCGCTCGGGTACAAGGTGCGCGCCTCCGACATGGCG
(SEQ ID NO:105).

4. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 8b (SEQ ID NO:7).

5. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 4 which has the coding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 8a (SEQ ID NO:14).

6. (Cancel).

7-9 (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide ~~according to claim 6~~ encoding a polypeptide which on expression in a plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin,

wherein said polynucleotide specifically hybridizes to the sequence of Figure 8A (SEQ ID NO: 14) at 65°C in 0.25M Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.2, 6.5% SDS, 10% dextran sulphate and a final wash at 60°C in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS, and;

wherein said polypeptide includes the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 9b (SEQ ID NO: 8) for the maize D8 polypeptide.

11. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 10 which has the coding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 9a (SEQ ID NO:15).

12. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide ~~according to claim 6~~ encoding a polypeptide which on expression in a plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin,

wherein said polynucleotide specifically hybridizes to the sequence of Figure 8A (SEQ ID NO: 14) at 65°C in 0.25M Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.2, 6.5% SDS, 10% dextran sulphate and a final wash at 60°C in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS, and;

wherein said polypeptide includes the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 6b (SEQ ID NO: 5).

13. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 12 which has the coding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 6a (SEQ ID NO:12).

14 and 15 (Cancel).

16 (Cancelled).

17-19 (Cancel).

20. (Currently Amended) ~~An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 19~~
encoding a polypeptide which on expression in a plant confers a phenotype on the plant which is gibberellin-unresponsive dwarfism or which on expression in a *rht* null mutant phenotype plant complements the *rht* null mutant phenotype, such *rht* null mutant phenotype being resistant to the dwarfing effect of paclobutrazol,

which polynucleotide has the coding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 9a (SEQ ID NO: 15) wherein the nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRSSDMA (SEQ ID NO: 106) are deleted.

21-24 (Cancel).

25. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide ~~according to claim 24~~ encoding a polypeptide which on expression in a plant confers a phenotype on the plant which is gibberellin-unresponsive dwarfism or which on expression in a *rht* null mutant phenotype plant complements the *rht* null mutant phenotype, such *rht* null mutant phenotype being resistant to the dwarfing effect of paclobutrazol,

which polynucleotide has the coding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 6a (SEQ ID NO: 12), wherein the nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRSSDMA (SEQ ID NO: 106) are deleted.

26. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 8b (SEQ ID NO:7), with the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104) deleted.

27. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 26 which has the coding nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 8a (SEQ ID NO:14), wherein

the nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104) are deleted.

28. (Previously Presented) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 operably linked to a regulatory sequence for expression.

29. (Original) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 28 wherein the regulatory sequence includes an inducible promoter.

30 and 31 (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) A nucleic acid vector for transformation of a plant cell and including the polynucleotide according to claim 1.

33. (Previously Presented) A host cell containing a heterologous polynucleotide or nucleic acid vector each comprising the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1.

34. (Previously Presented) A host cell according to claim 33 which is a microbial cell.

35. (Original) A host cell according to claim 33 which is a plant cell.

36. (Previously Presented) A plant cell according to claim 35 having said heterologous polynucleotide in its genome.

37. (Previously Presented) A plant cell according to claim 36 having more than one said polynucleotide per haploid genome.

38. (Previously Presented) A plant cell according to claim 35 which is comprised in a plant, a plant part or a plant propagule, or an extract of a plant.

39. (Previously Presented) A method of producing the host cell according to claim 35, the method including incorporating said heterologous polynucleotide or nucleic acid vector into the cell by means of transformation.

40. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39 which includes recombining the polynucleotide with the cell genome such that it is stably incorporated therein.

41. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 39 wherein said host cell is a plant cell and said method further includes regenerating a plant from one or more of said transformed cells.

42. (Previously Presented) A plant comprising the plant cell according to claim 35.

43. (Previously Presented) A part or propagule of a plant comprising a plant cell according to claim 35.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of producing ~~the~~ a isolated plant, the method including incorporating a polynucleotide according to claim 1 into a plant cell and regenerating a plant from said plant cell.

45. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 44 further including sexually or asexually propagating or growing off-spring or a descendant of the plant regenerated from said plant cell.

46. (Previously Presented) A method of influencing the growth of a plant, the method including causing or allowing expression from a heterologous polynucleotide comprising the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1 within cells of the plant, whereby said expression of said heterologous polypeptide influences the growth of said plant.

47 (Cancelled).

48 and 49 (Cancel).

50. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to claim 49~~ of identifying or obtaining a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence DELLAALGYKVRASDMA (SEQ ID NO:104) and which on expression in a plant provides inhibition of growth of the plant, which inhibition is antagonised by gibberellin,

wherein said polynucleotide specifically hybridizes to the sequence of Figure 8A (SEQ ID NO: 14) at 65°C in 0.25M Na₂HPO₄, pH 7.2, 6.5% SDS, 10% dextran sulphate and a final wash at 60°C in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS.,

the method comprising screening candidate nucleic acid by PCR using oligonucleotide primers ~~wherein said primers are~~ selected from those shown in Tables 1 (SEQ ID NO: 21 – SEQ ID NO:55) and 2 (SEQ ID NO: 80 – SEQ ID NO:100).

51-56 (Cancelled).